

Message Text

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51

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EA-06 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 PRS-01 SAM-01 AID-05 /056 W

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P 182030Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7442

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: JAMAICAN REACTION TO PRESIDENT'S FOREIGN POLICY
ADDRESS

REF: STATE 86289

1. JAMAICAN REACTION TO PRESIDENT'S SPEECH PER SE HAS BEEN LIMITED. COMMENT HAS CENTERED ON PRESIDENT'S EMPHASIS ON RELIABILITY OF U.S. AS ALLY, AND THE FACT HE FELT HE HAD TO SAY IT. JAMAICANS, BOTH PRO-US AND OTHERWISE, FEEL EVENTS IN SOUTHEAST ASIA AND THE U.S. RESPONSE (OR LACK THEREOF) HAVE DAMAGED THE U.S. IMAGE OF RELIABILITY. EMBOFFS ARE FREQUENTLY ASKED WHETHER U.S. IS ENTERING NEW ISOLATIONIST PHASE.

2. CONSERVATIVE JAMAICANS ARE CONCERNED THAT APPARENT U.S. UNWILLINGNESS TO HELP FRIENDS COUNTER COMMUNIST AGGRESSION WILL EMBOLDEN COMMUNISTS TO GO ON THE OFFENSIVE ELSEWHERE. SPECIFICALLY THEY FEAR THE CUBANS AND, ADDITIONALLY, ARE WORRIED BY SIGNS OF A MOVEMENT TOWARDS U.S./CUBAN RAPPROACHMENT.

3. ASSUMING A DECLINING U.S. INTEREST IN THE CARIBBEAN, SOME JAMAICANS ARE BEGINNING TO ASK WHO WILL REPLACE THE USG AS THE DOMINANT POWER IN THE AREA. THERE IS SOME APPREHENSION ABOUT VENEZUELA'S ASPIRATION TO
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LEADERSHIP OF THE AREA AND CONSIDERABLE INTEREST IN

HOW THE USG WILL REACT TO VENEZUELAN INITIATIVES.

4. IN SHORT, JAMAICANS GENERALLY ARE CONFUSED BY RECENT EVENTS AND WHAT THEY IMPLY FOR FUTURE U.S. POLICY. THEY FEEL THAT U.S. POLICY IS AT BEST ADRIFT AND AT WORST A SHAMBLES.
GERARD

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESIDENT, SPEECHES, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, PUBLIC ATTITUDES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 APR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975KINGST01476
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750138-0295
From: KINGSTON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750439/aaaabjuk.tel
Line Count: 68
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 86289
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 SEP 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12 SEP 2003 by greeneet>; APPROVED <09 OCT 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: JAMAICAN REACTION TO PRESIDENT'S FOREIGN POLICY ADDRESS
TAGS: PFOR, US, JM, (FORD, GERALD R)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006